AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-18 (Canceled)

19. (New) A stream generation method for generating a stream that includes (i) information obtained by coding a command for managing a buffer that holds a decoded picture as a reference picture, and (ii) pixel data of a coded picture, said method comprising:

judging whether or not a first coded picture is a coded picture corresponding to a picture that is to be skipped at a time of trick-play, the first coded picture being added with a first information obtained by coding the command;

coding same contents as the command shown by the first information, as a second information, when it is judged in said judging that the first coded picture is the coded picture corresponding to the picture that is to be skipped at the time of trick-play; and

generating the stream, by adding the second information to a second coded picture that follows, in decoding order, the first coded picture and that corresponds to a picture which is not to be skipped at the time of the trick-play.

20. (New) The stream generation method according to Claim 19,

wherein the second coded picture is after the first coded picture in the decoding order and is the earliest coded picture in the decoding order among coded pictures which correspond to the picture which is not to be skipped during trick-play.

21. (New) A stream reproduction method of reproducing a stream that is generated by the stream generation method according to Claim 19, which includes

specifying a coded picture to be decoded at a time of trick-play;

decoding only a coded picture specified in said specification step;

wherein said decoding includes

definitely decoding information in which the command is coded when information in which

the command is coded is added to the coded picture;

managing a buffer depending on contents of the decoded command; and

decoding a coded picture by referring to the reference picture held in the buffer when the coded picture to be decoded references another picture.

22. (New) A recording medium in which a stream readable by a computer is recorded, the stream including (i) information obtained by coding a command for managing a buffer that holds a decoded picture as a reference picture, and (ii) pixel data of a coded picture,

the stream includes a first picture and a second picture,

wherein the first coded picture is a coded picture corresponding to a picture that is to be skipped at a time of trick-play, the first coded picture being added with a first information obtained by coding the command,

the second coded picture is added with a second information, the second coded picture that follows, in decoding order, the first coded picture and that corresponds to a picture which is not to be skipped at the time of the trick-play, and the second information being obtained by coding same contents as the command.

23. (New) A stream generation method of generating a stream that includes (i) information obtained by coding a command for managing a buffer that holds a decoded picture as a reference picture, and (ii) pixel data of a coded picture, said method comprising:

judging whether or not a first coded picture to which first information is added is a coded picture which corresponds to a reference B picture to be referred to when another coded picture is decoded, the first information being the coded command;

coding, as second information, the same contents as the command shown by the first information when it is judged in said judging that the first coded picture corresponds to the reference B picture; and

generating the stream by adding the second information to a second coded picture which corresponds to an I picture or a P picture which follows the first coded picture in decoding order.

24. (New) The stream generation method according to Claim 23,

wherein the second picture is an earliest coded picture in the decoding order among coded pictures which correspond to one of an I picture and a P picture that follow the first coded picture in decoding order.

25. (New) A stream reproduction method of reproducing a stream that is generated by the stream generation method according to Claim 19, which includes

specifying a coded picture to be decoded at a time of trick-play;

coded picture decoding only a coded picture specified by said specification step;

wherein said coded picture decoding includes

definitely decoding information in which the command is coded when information in which the command is coded is added to the coded picture,

managing a buffer depending on contents of the decoded command; and

decoding a coded picture by referring to the reference picture held in the buffer when the coded picture to be decoded references another picture.

26. (New) A recording medium in which a stream is recorded, the stream including (i) information obtained by coding a command for managing a buffer that holds a decoded picture as a reference picture, and (ii) pixel data of a coded picture,

in the stream,

when a first coded picture is a coded picture corresponding to a picture that is to be skipped at a time of trick-play, the first coded picture being added with a first information obtained by coding the command,

a second information is added to a second coded picture which corresponds to an I picture or a P picture which follows the first coded picture in decoding order, the second information being obtained by coding same contents as the command shown by the first information.

27. (New) A stream generation method which generates a stream that includes

(i) information obtained by coding a command for managing a buffer that holds a decoded picture as a reference picture, and

(ii) pixel data of a first coded picture that is obtained by coding a specific P picture and that is able to be decoded by selectively referring to an I picture or a P picture that precedes, in decoding order, to the specific P picture,

wherein a picture that follows, in the decoding order, the specific picture is defined by not referring to a picture that precedes, in the decoding order, to the specific P picture, and

the method comprising:

judging whether or not a second coded picture is a coded picture corresponding to a picture that is not to be referred to when the first coded picture is decoded, the second coded picture being added with a first information obtained by coding the command;

coding same contents as the command shown by the first information, as a second information, when said judging unit judges that the second coded picture is the coded picture corresponding to the picture that is not to be referred to when the first coded picture is decoded; and

generating the stream, by adding the second information to a third coded picture, and

the third coded picture that follows, in the decoding order, the second coded picture and that corresponds to a P picture which is referred to when the first coded picture is decoded.

28. (New) The stream generation method according to Claim 27,

wherein the third coded picture is a P picture after the second coded picture in the decoding order, and is the earliest coded picture in the decoding order among coded pictures which correspond to a P picture referenced when decoding the first coded picture.

29. (New) A stream reproduction method of reproducing a stream that is generated by the stream generation method according to Claim 19, which includes

specifying a coded picture to be decoded at a time of trick-play;

coded picture decoding step only a coded picture specified by said specification step;

wherein said coded picture decoding includes

definitely decoding information in which the command is coded when information in which the command is coded is added to the coded picture,

managing a buffer depending on contents of the command decoded in said first decoding; and

decoding a coded picture by referring to the reference picture held in the buffer.

30. (New) A recording medium in which a stream is recorded which is readable by a computer, the recording medium including

(i) information obtained by coding a command for managing a buffer that holds a decoded picture as a reference picture, and

(ii) pixel data of a first coded picture that is obtained by coding a specific P picture and that is able to be decoded by selectively referring to an I picture or a P picture that precedes, in decoding order, to the specific P picture,

wherein a picture that follows, in the decoding order, the specific picture is defined by not referring to a picture that precedes, in the decoding order, to the specific P picture, and

the stream includes a second picture and a second information,

wherein the second picture being added with a first information obtained by coding the command is a coded picture corresponding to a P picture which is not referenced when coding the first coding picture,

the second information is added to a third coded picture which corresponds to a P picture which is referenced when coding the first coding picture, the second information being obtained by coding same contents as the command shown by the first information.